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Scottsdale Arizona "The Most Western Town"

By Joan Ewart

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Scottsdale Arizona - "The Most Western Town", are we losing it or what?

Is Scottsdale beginning to look a little like Tuscany? If it were up to all the architects and, designers in town, I think the "look" would overtake the whole desert. Every shop and designer touts "Old World Elegance" with velvets, brocades, and beads. Venetian colors of olive, burgundy, gold and black proliferate interiors. We may love the look in Tuscany, but in the desert? Finding velvets and brocades in Scottsdale is just about like chintz and floral fabrics - out of pocket.

How many more rocks and turrets are we going to see, before this "look" bites the dust? Whatever happened to the simplicity of the adobe? It suits our desert environment. It belongs in our Western atmosphere. Fortunately or unfortunately, we do not have ranks and rows of cypress trees and gazing out the window at cactus and sand, kind of makes the beads and tassels more than a little out of character.

Having worked as a designer for many years, I have always been a firm believer in design to suit your locale...right along with Frank Lloyd Wright who chose Scottsdale as his home. Taliesin does not contain velvets and brocades, but takes advantage of the desert vistas and local materials. There's a reason for the Charleston "Single Houses", the "Shingle Style" of our Eastern beaches, the "Prairie Homes of Wisconsin, The New England homes with "widow walks", the "shotgun" houses in the Bayou, and all the other historical home designs that were born from need and suitability.

The Spanish founded Arizona, so yes we have had our "Spanish Hacienda" look, but somehow it was never quite as opulent as today's trends.

The charm of Santa Fe is in it's architecture, Charleston beckons with it's "Painted Row Houses", New York is spectacular with steel and glass skyscrapers, Savannah offers elegant 18th Century Georgian homes on it's streets, in keeping with it's English heritage, and yes, Scottsdale had it's Western simple charm. For great examples of how we used to be, visit The Camelback Inn, The Hermosa Inn, The Royal Palms, and El Charro for peek back at the original "Scottsdale" look.

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We always laughed at "English Tudor" here in the desert as totally inappropriate, can the "Tuscany Villa" be far behind?

I for one hope so!

Read a lot more about Scottsdale at
<http://insider-scottsdale.com>

Please feel free to use this info on any website or blog, just be sure to keep my contact information intact. Thanks

An artist, a writer and world traveler, devotes many hours to authoring and maintaining major travel web sites. Publishes many articles on travel spots around the world. This particular article is from www.insider-scottsdale.com

Scottsdale Residential Real Estate – Getting A Lay Of The Land

By John Wesley

Scottsdale residential real estate allows people to live in the lap of luxury. Located in Maricopa County Arizona, Scottsdale is renowned as a luxury resort town. But, the desert heaven of Scottsdale wasn't always this way.

It is believed that the Hohokam and Anasazi Indians moved into the area around 300 BC. They were an agricultural people, and the deserts which are now known as Scottsdale was not particularly plentiful with water.

Together, these tribes built approximately 125 miles (200 kilometers) of canals. The Hohokam and Anasazi effectively watered the entire area with these canals, turning the desert into an area with rich soil for farming. Now, the area is lush with greenery, turning Scottsdale into a desert oasis.

Scottsdale residential real estate residents enjoy not only the lush greenery that the canals produce, but also the lifestyle that living on a body of water creates. The Hohokam Indians suddenly vanished around 1400 AD, adding mystery to Scottsdale's past.

Today, getting around Scottsdale has become easier with the highway of Route 17, Route 51, the 101 Loop and the 202 Loop. With all roads having three (3) or four (4) lanes, getting downtown from Scottsdale residential real estate can take ten minutes, depending on the time of day. Between four o'clock and six o'clock, expect getting around the Scottsdale residential real estate area to easily take at least forty-five minutes.

Scottsdale, Arizona is essentially divided into four (4) areas: Old Town (South Scottsdale); Downtown (Civic Center/ Fashion Square); Central Scottsdale; and North Scottsdale. Old Town (South Scottsdale) was once known as the "poor" side of town, with many soup-kitchens and a median resale

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home value around \$100,000.00 USD. This has recently changed and many old buildings are being replaced with safer, more aesthetic architecture. The median resale home price in Old Town has recently skyrocketed to around \$200,000.00 USD.

Downtown Scottsdale residential real estate is seeing a recent up-rise in luxury condos. Downtown is known to be a more eclectic and cultural area, and the streets are often filled with foot traffic after dark as residents enjoy the Downtown night life.

Central Scottsdale has a long history of Scottsdale residential real estate luxury. Movies and television shows such as Beverly Hills 90210 and Clueless have shot scenes in this area, with large, luxury mansions as the backdrops.

North Scottsdale is where the majority of new Scottsdale residential real estate is being built. As the city expands northward, new residents are enjoying the beautiful mountain views in the area. The median new home price in North Scottsdale is approximately \$750,000.00 USD, with many home prices in the millions.

Because each area of Scottsdale, Arizona has its own unique style, Scottsdale residential real estate has something for anybody who is looking to live in the lap of luxury. As the area is seeing a lot of

growth, new jobs are constantly being created in the area. At this rate of growth, Scottsdale may soon rival Phoenix in population and businesses. However, Scottsdale residential real estate is determined not only to maintain luxury, but improve upon it, meaning housing prices have nowhere to go but up!

For more free information about buying, selling, and investing in the greater Phoenix, Arizona real estate market visit the Phoenix Real Estate Talk! web site at

.

You'll also find a discussion forum for asking questions and free e-mail mini-courses for enhancing your real estate knowledge.



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